

9-25-2009

## The Hilltop 9-25-2009

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**WEATHER****73**  
**59****Tomorrow:****67**  
**62**Established  
**1924**

# THE HILLTOP

The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

VOLUME 93, NO. 24

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Friday, September 25, 2009

**Friday's  
Notebook****BREAKING NEWS****U.S. SUPREME COURT JUSTICE RUTH BADER GINSBERG WAS HOSPITALIZED THURSDAY AFTERNOON.****NATION & WORLD****CONCERNED ABOUT THE PRIVACY OF YOUR IDENTITY? READ AND FIND OUT HOW TO PROTECT YOUR IDENTITY.****SPORTS****"FALL" INTO THE LATEST TRENDS THAT WILL KEEP ALL FASHIONERS EQUIPPED FOR ANY SEASON.**

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PAGE 6

## Miss Howard Represents for 'The Mecca'

*Kendall Isadore makes history for HU, takes students with her for the ride***BY CRYSTAL J. ALLEN**  
*Editor-in-Chief*

Close your eyes and imagine what life would be like as college royalty.

This is every day for Kendall Isadore, 2008-2010 Miss Howard University, who has already made history as the first Miss Howard to serve two terms and will be making history again, this weekend, as the first Miss Howard to attend the 24th annual Miss HBCU pageant.

"We plan to come back with a victory, but this is a slate that Howard has never touched," she said. "It's really exciting."

The 2009 National Black College Alumni Hall Of Fame Foundation, Inc. Competition of Black College Queens, a pageant that will host a total of 24 HBCU queens, will take place this Saturday, Sept. 26 in Atlanta, Ga.

Isadore said she is not nervous, but anxious. She calls herself a "performer by nature," who has been dancing since the age of 4. When Isadore turned 8, she began playing the piano, but when she began playing the violin at 9, she said she fell in love.

Isadore's Student Activities advisor, Associate Director of Student Activities Lisa Reeves, said the university's participation in the pageant is different and a "change for Howard." Reeves, who has worked as an advisor at both Lincoln University and Central State University, said this year's pageant is also exciting for her because having worked at other historically black universities, it was disappointing to see other queens work together and Howard not participate.

"Ms. Reeves came from another school where pageantry was important," Isadore said. She

said it's not that pageantry was not important at Howard, but people were not fully aware of the purpose.

"People knew, but they didn't know what they were supposed to do," Isadore said. "They [the kings and queens] weren't raised to any standards."

Reeves said this is because the King and Queen positions were not clearly defined. Throughout the summer, she worked on reworking the responsibilities for the king and queen, which include helping with university recruitment, participating in the annual university convocation and working with the community. Overall, Reeves said the university king and queen should act as the "posterchildren" for the university.

Reeves said Miss Howard was never a part of the pageantry scene partially because of timing and financial constraints.

While most schools host

their pageants in the spring and their coronation balls in October, Howard traditionally hosted the Mr. & Miss Howard pageant in October, during Homecoming, leaving no opportunity to participate in the September pageant.

Funding has also affected Howard's participation in the pageant. This year, Reeves decided to personally fund some of the expenses surrounding the pageant, including Isadore's dress for the Evening Wear portion, in order to help provide her with the proper experience. The university did fund both Isadore's and Reeves' travel expenses, however.

"It's more than being an advisor," Reeves said, who also serves as an advisor for Mr. Howard. "It's like being a second mother." She said it's important to "make sure they have the things they need."

She said, "The Ribeaus

do understand the changes [being made.] Next year may be different, in terms of finances."

This year's pageant will be held in March, giving Isadore and Mr. Howard, Melech Thomas, an additional school year to serve. Reeves said the university had to make a decision to either make the next king and queen's reign shorter, or to simply extend Thomas' and Isadore's terms. She said considering their progress and accomplishments thus far, the administration made the decision to simply keep the two on board for another year.

Collectively, Thomas and Isadore have already begun working with the community, even hosting the Mr. & Miss Parkside Middle School pageant in Manassas, Va. Thomas has also started the "Do

> See **MISS HU**, Page 3

## Scientists Introduce New HIV Vaccine

**BY LE'DIA J. SMITH**  
*Staff Writer*

An experimental vaccine to prevent HIV infection has shown "modest" results in reducing the risk of contracting the disease. On Thursday, researchers announced the results of the Thai Phase III HIV vaccine clinical trial, also known as RV 144, in Bangkok, Thailand.

More than 16,000 HIV-negative participants in Thailand were involved in the trial—8,000 being given a prime and booster vaccine, and the other half given a placebo. Researchers found that the individuals given the vaccine were 31 percent less likely to contract human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) compared with those on the placebo.

Over six months, a combination of two previously unsuccessful vaccines was given to the participants, aged ranging from 18 and 30, and continued until June 30, 2009. The participants also received counseling on HIV prevention and were tested every six months during the three years.

Using the vaccines ALVAC as the "prime-boost" and AIDSVAX as the "boost," the study was designed to test the vaccine's ability to prevent the HIV infection, and the ability to reduce the amount of HIV in the blood of those who became infected after enrolling in the study.

Strains of HIV common in Thailand were used, causing the question whether the vaccine would work against other strains common in the United States and Africa, scientists stressed.

During the three-year trial, fifty-one people in the vaccine group contracted HIV, compared with the 74 in the placebo group. The vaccine had no effect on the levels of HIV in the blood of those who became infected.

"Although the studies for the vaccine are not complete, even a small step is an improvement,"

said Katherine Wallace, junior marketing major. "This is a reminder of the importance of supporting HIV research, and we should continue taking steps toward preventing HIV, especially since it is so prevalent in the D.C. area."

HIV is the virus that causes acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), a condition in which the immune system begins to fail. Since its discovery in 1986, researchers have continued to conduct HIV vaccine trials to prevent the infection. These vaccines have all failed.

The study was conducted by the Thailand Ministry of Public Health and funded by the National Institutes of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command.

The U.S. Army's HIV Vaccines Product Manager, Colonel Jerome Kim, told CNN

that the level of effectiveness of this vaccine was modest, and is an important first step that will help researchers work toward a more effective vaccine.

"These results show that development of a safe and effective preventive HIV vaccine is possible," Kim said.

Although progress has been made to fight HIV/AIDS, the epidemic continues to claim many lives across the globe with 56,300 new HIV infections each year in the U.S., and an estimated 33 million people living with the disease worldwide.

Scientists are awaiting the publication of the full trial data so that they can judge how significant the findings are. Details of the study will be given at the AIDS Vaccine Conference in Paris next month.

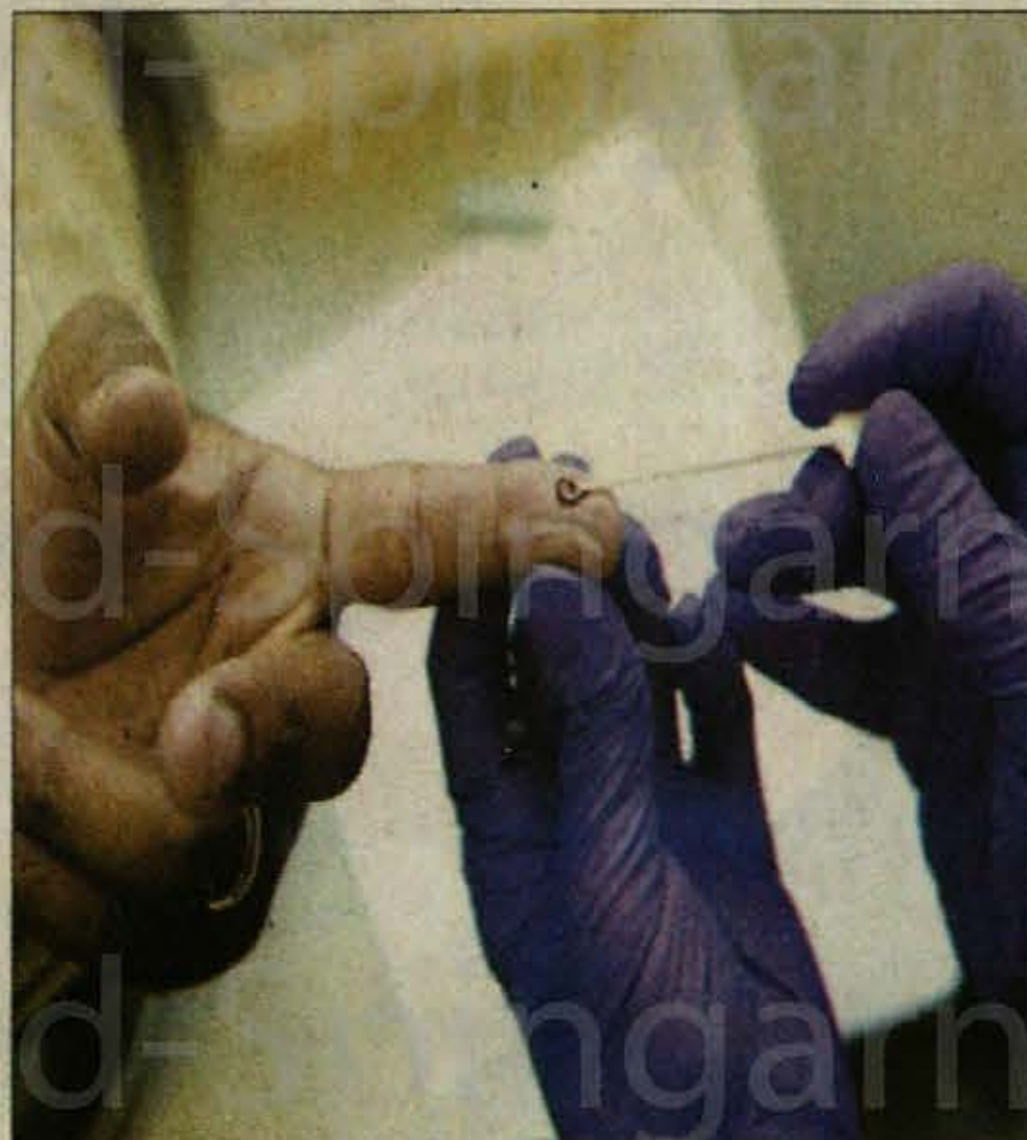


Photo Courtesy of Telleman Brölin - New York Daily News  
**Scientists in Thailand may have found a vaccine to prevent contracting HIV.**



Photo Courtesy of Wikipedia

**The Honorable Ewart Brown is the Premier of Bermuda. He will be speaking at today's convocation.**

## Premier of Bermuda Speaks at Convocation

**BY ASHLEY JOHNSON-ALFORD**  
*Staff Writer*

To welcome new students and recognize an alumnus who has reached great heights beyond his tenure at Howard, Alumnus and Bermuda Premier, The Honorable Dr. Ewart Frederick Brown, will be the guest speaker at the 142nd Opening Convocation at 11 a.m. today in Cramton Auditorium.

Born in Bermuda as nephew to Bermuda's first female cabinet member, Gloria Juanita McPhee, Brown attended elementary and middle school in Bermuda and Jamaica. When choosing a college, he turned down a scholarship from the University of Illinois to attend Howard where he was an avid participant during the Washington riots.

He worked closely with campus activists and Black Panther leaders. He graduated with a bachelor's in chemistry, and was involved in both football and track and field.

Brown has made many great achievements since then. He was appointed as Minister of Transport in 1998 and in 2003. In 2004, he was awarded the position of the Tourism and Transportation Ministry. In late 2005, Brown was elected as the Premier of Bermuda. Because of these accomplishments, he has been chosen to give the keynote address.

"The Convocation traditionally features an address by an individual who has made outstanding contributions to his or her given field, who has made a significant impact on society at large and whose message would serve to broaden the horizons of our students and other members of the Howard family," said Howard University President Sidney A. Ribeau. "Premier Brown, without question, has made significant strides nationally and globally."

A double alumnus, Brown earned his undergraduate degree at Howard in 1968 and his medical degree from Howard's College of Medicine.

He then moved to Los Angeles to achieve his master's of public health degree. He has received many awards since then including the Physician's Recognition Award from the American Medical Association and the NAACP's Pacesetter Award. He now serves as Medical Director of Bermuda Health Care Services.

Once in the shoes of a Howard student, Brown will address the university as a whole to share his story and his struggle. WHUR 96.3 FM will be broadcasting live from the event. Audio from the Convocation will be available at [www.howard.edu](http://www.howard.edu) by the Sept. 28. An edit of the Convocation will be officially broadcasted on WHUT-TV on Oct. 25 at 3 p.m.



# 40 Years Later, The Past Still Inspires

BY VICTORIA FORTUNE  
Staff Writer

Twenty years ago, a SWAT team stormed the campus of Howard University sparking arrest and death threats as convocation speaker Bill Cosby was escorted out of Cramton Auditorium. The 1989 student protest led by April Silver and Ras Baraka shut down Howard University for five days, but more importantly led to the forced resignation of Board of Trustee and Republican National Committee member Lee Atwater.

Silver referred to the protest as "The Take Over", but before the student body could actually take over Howard University, she sought advice from leaders of the 1969 protest that resulted in the creation of the African American Studies Department.

Not only was their protest fueled by previous student demonstrations, but the environment played a large role in the protest as well. According to Silver, with artists like Public Enemy, Chuck D, and KRS-One, hip hop music painted the background for their movement.

"The song for us was 'Fight

the Power', as opposed to 'Blame It On the Alcohol'," she said. "It was a different feel."

As the students began to storm out of their dorm rooms, helicopters flew over the roof while the SWAT team made their way through the glass windows.

"It was reminiscent of the 1950's and 60's with the student senate. We were unarmed but they came with guns and things; it was like an action movie," Silver said.

According to a *New York Times* article written in 1989, "There appears to be no single root cause for Howard's problems, or for the five-day protest in which students took over the Administration building, charging that school officials, including Mr. Cheek, had put a racist on the board. Mr. Atwater vehemently denies that he is a racist. But the fact is that student dissatisfaction had been smoldering long before that appointment over questions about the school's administration and academic standing."

Though the scene of "The Take Over", was much like an action movie, they never lost sight of their goal. An agenda was set similar to the demands made in the Sept. 4, 2009 Howard protest, financial aid and administration

were both issues in need of resolution. While all of the demands were not met, their most important goal was accomplished: the removal of Lee Atwater.

Howard University has a legacy of using the tactic of protesting to insure that the student voice is heard. Pearl Stewart was one of *The Hilltop* writers who covered the 1969 protest. She can vividly remember being suspended her freshman year for being caught going on stage during the "Founder's Day Take Over".

"I went onto the stage because the mics had been turned off and I was trying to take notes. The suspension was rescinded when the students' demands were met. I did agree with the students who were protesting, but I covered the event as a news reporter and I tried to obtain the other side of the issues. The administration didn't respond to most requests for interviews."

Though Howard students have taken extreme measures to demand progress, the end results are worth the SWAT teams, the helicopters, the student suspensions and the campus shut down. This year marks the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Howard University African American Studies Department.



Photo Courtesy of Kellen Moore

After the protest, the student spread the words to celebration with this flyer for a "HouseFest."

Without the students speaking up for what they believed were essential to the campus, there may not have been an African American Studies Department de-

veloped.

Although Howard University has come far, the journey is not over; the University still has a long way to go.

## To Lead, To Serve Councils Clean Up

BY TAHIRAH HAIRSTON  
Campus Editor

Last Saturday, both the School of Business and John H. Johnson School of Communications Student Councils had the first Campus Clean-up Day for the semester as a part of their council weeks. This Saturday, Sept. 26, the School of Divinity Student Council will launch their Campus Beautification Day.

"I think that it hits one of the integral parts of the week, we're not just doing this to make it better for ourselves, it's for posterity and for the community," said School of Communications Student Council Executive Vice President Candace Smith.

During Campus Clean-up Day, the SOC Student Council divided the students into groups and sent them to clean up various parts of Howard's campus. But this Campus Clean-up Day isn't that last time the SOC Student Council plans to get involved. According to Smith, this school year they've created an initiative called the Ivory Tower Initiative, where Howard students will go to high schools and get partnered with high school students. This initiative will launch by the end of this week.

"We try to make sure we give back as much as possible," she said.

This is the first year for the School of Divinity Student Council's Campus Beautification Day. According to School of Divinity Executive Vice President Andrea Noel, the idea came from the physical issues that they had within the School of Divinity and wanting to get them taken care of.

Noel said a lot of the larger issues were already taken care of, but for the smaller issues she turned to the students. "We thought let's get the student body involved and do it ourselves," she said. On Saturday from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., a group of students will be working with the facilities coordinator to find out what he needs help with around campus.

"This will not only help students to take pride in their school, but also maybe it will encourage administration to help us out when they see the students taking initiative to help with issues around campus," Noel said.

Continuing with community service for the year, in October, the School of Divinity will participate in the AIDS walk on Oct. 3. Noel said they are trying to partner with Chapel Assistants and have a group of 20 to 40 students. The council is also raising between \$1,000 and \$1,500 to donate to AIDS clinics around the local Washington, D.C. area.

## Get Involved, Serve Others

BY LAUREN GASPARD  
Staff Writer

Service is one of Howard University's founding core values. Many students around campus engage in a number of different community service opportunities in the District both on and off campus.

Here is a how-to guide on how to get involved in the D.C. community and possible ideas that Howard students can use for community service:

### 1. Serve.gov

President Obama recently created an initiative entitled "United We Serve". The initiative was created to challenge Americans to become more socially involved with their communities in light of the declining economy. The initiative began over the summer, and was set to end on Sept. 11. However, President Obama admonished all Americans to adopt the initiative as an ongoing opportunity.

Serve.gov allows you to input your interests and location, to find various opportunities in your area to participate in.

### 2. Local Places in the District Accepting Volunteers

A number of Howard students, especially those in student organizations, volunteer at several community service venues in the local D.C. area year-round. Most of these locations are within walking distance and are continuously asking for help from the

Mecca. Here are a couple of options:

- *Bread For The City*: This organization encompasses a number of different services ranging from food donations to health care and financial services. Starting Sept. 25, they will accept applications for all new volunteers. They are located on 7<sup>th</sup> street, right down the street from campus.

- *Jumpstart*: Jumpstart is for students who wish to get involved in mentoring and tutoring opportunities in low-income areas. Each volunteer is given a group of children to work with throughout the full school year, in hopes of having a strong impact on their education, and their lives. An interest meeting is held each semester to receive more information.

- *Boys and Girls Club*: The overall mission of The Boys and Girls Club is to encourage youth in inner-city communities to find recreation in their talents and abilities rather than on the streets. The Boys and Girls Club of Greater Washington is now accepting volunteers.

3. *On-Campus Volunteering*  
On-campus opportunities for volunteering are also very common amongst Howard students. Before reaching out to outside locations for volunteer work, it doesn't hurt to start at home. A few ideas are:

- *On-Campus Cleanups*  
- *Howard University Middle School for Mathematics and Science (MS<sup>2</sup>)*: Check the Howard Univer-

sity Web site for contact information and volunteer information.

- *Building Cleanups*  
- *Mentor/Mentee programs within Student Councils of each school*

### 4. Join a Student Organization

Every student organization on campus does some form of community service all year long. Some organizations are strictly geared towards community service, which could be a wonderful choice for a person who is passionate about working in the community.

Organizations such as Target Hope, Circle K, and Golden Key are just a few organizations that are avid participants in community service both on and off campus.

The Office of University Research and Planning along with the Howard University Community Association collaborate yearly to create a booklet entitled "Service", which is available on the Howard University Web site.

The booklet contains 83 pages full of ways that Howard University plans to stay involved in the D.C. community and how students can do the same.

The booklet's purpose is to inspire volunteers to be active in upholding the vision of Howard University, to be visible and to be portrayed with "leadership and service to the world, and the global community" in mind.

## Bison Album: You Know You Go To Howard When...



Bree Gant - Photographer



Bree Gant - Photographer

You Know You Go To Howard When... brothers are on the down-low.

You Know You Go To Howard When... waiting for the shuttle is an excuse to be late for class.



## Isadore Shines in Miss HBCU Pageant

Continued from FRONT, MISS HU

You Care?" campaign, an initiative to combat gun violence in the black community. Isadore is the chairperson for Ending Violence Against Women, an organization initiated to stop domestic violence.

The pageant, to Reeves, is just one step in the right direction. She said she is glad the positions of Mr. & Miss Howard University are "being taken more seriously. The love being shown by HU students is wonderful."

In support of Isadore, students will be attending Saturday's competition. Early Thursday morning, a bus load of students left for Atlanta to attend the weekend's festivities, representing their respective organizations. The organizations include the Arts & Sciences Student Council (ASSC), the Howard University Homecoming Steering Committee (HUHSC), *The Hilltop* and the Howard University Yearbook Committee.

"I think it's a great idea that

the university is finally going to step up and...join the ranks of other universities," said Geanna LaFleur, a junior marketing major and Director of Operations for the HUHSC. "I watched videos of other pageants and Howard is not involved."

ASSC President Dorien Blythers said, "I think its very important that, as students, we take the initiative to reach out to other organizations."

"Howard students are often dubbed 'bourgie and exclusive,'" Blythers said, "but by us doing events like this, we can break down stereotypes and collaborate with students from other HBCUs."

Not only is Isadore receiving support from her Howard family, but she also receives points for bringing a crowd.

"I feel good about it [the pageant], but I feel better because everybody is coming. HU is just like family coming," she said. "We're bringing a piece of HU to them."

## Black Arts Movement Pioneer Shares His Story

BY TAHIRAH HAIRSTON  
Campus Editor

The students in Professor Tony Medina's Intro to Humanities class were taken on a mental rollercoaster as the writer, poet, essayist and playwright Marvin X came to share mythology on the black race.

X was welcomed to the District by Medina, Ph.D., and African American Studies Department Chair Gregory Carr, Ph.D., to promote his new book "Mythology of Pussy: Exploring the Sexual Behavior of the Black Male and Female."

"Professors like Dr. Carr and Dr. Medina are continuing the traditions of radical scholarship at Howard University," X said. X, himself, came from radical beginnings as one of the founders of the Black Arts Movement and companions with Huey Newton and Bobby Seale who later founded the Black Panther Party.

"Mythology of Pussy" is a seven section booklet that X is considering turning into a book. He said that you can't separate it from white supremacy because they are interrelated. The booklet is how to recover from the degradation and inferior treatment of women based on a twelve step model, much like the Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) program.

"It came from mythology, the concept of a woman," he said. "In order to recover from the addiction of white supremacy we must boycott. The first step in recovery is to

detox."

The class discussion surrounded the topic of the underlying meanings of the word "pussy" and the equality of women versus men. Examples were used from Jezebel, the Virgin Mary and Samson and Delilah to the lyrics in hip hop songs.

"If a woman says her pussy is gold, then does that make my dick silver or are we equal?" X said. "Sexism is so deep into our society that we don't even realize it."

He continued, "We are going to get to the point where we transcend the whole American language, you can't get to the resolution of these terms because they all mean something different." X said that rather than banning certain words such as "bitch" or "nigga", the language as a whole should be banned.

X said that the exploitation of women came way before the lyrics of rap songs made number one of the Billboard charts.

Senior psychology major Ife-Chudeni Oputa brought up the point that as a woman she suffers from the same double concioconess that African Americans suffer from in a world dominated by white men. "We have to look at ourselves through the male eyes because it is a male dominated society," she said.

Marvin X will continue on his book tour and is currently teaching on the streets of Oakland, Calif. on 14th and Broadway.



The Premier of Bermuda, Ewart Brown, discusses Howard's history of activism at last night's HUSA program.

## 'Color Me Black' Highlights History of HU Activism

BY JESSICA LEWIS  
Campus Editor

Defiance of the status quo and a black conscious has made Howard University the "Mecca" of black education with students ready to tell the world that they are rising.

Those rising spirits led students to protest against lynching and to advocate for anti-lynching laws in the 30s. Spirit led students to protest against segregated streetcars in D.C. and for racial equality after World War II in the 40s. In the 60s, students pushed for the creation of an African American Studies Department with mandatory cluster courses for all students.

Throughout the years, students have pushed for the dismissal of Howard presidents and a Board of Trustee member, an end to the War in Iraq, justice for the Jena 6, the abandonment of legal challenges to affirmative action and more.

Senior mechanical engineering major Rachel Livingston said the spirit embedded in the essence of Howard is unique to Howard.

"I think it's different here than anywhere. Students are more likely to stand up because of the courage and pride that they have," she said.

Livingston said that Howard is not defined by student activism, but it is one of the things that make Howard University.

HUSA held a program Thursday evening in the Howard University Museum to show that student activism is one of the things that "Color

US Black."

A short presentation highlighted the purpose of the event by showing a Power Point of pictures and music that unveiled the different generations of student advocacy, which was also on display around the museum and in the glass cases in Founders Library.

Bermuda Premier and Howard alumnus, The Honorable Ewart Brown spoke before the hot, crowded room of students, staff, alumni and faculty to explain what sparked the movements that defined his generation.

Brown, former HUSA president and 1968 graduate, said, "Instead of simply taking an issue as if they just started, take them from the roots."

He said that the root of Howard's problems is its pathology. "We go in circles and end up at the same place... We have not accepted the pathology of our people. We want to do business how other people do business."

Brown could not fathom the reality that a student in 2009 was having the same problems he did in 1964. He said that Howard's mission statement may be the problem because we try to take anybody that wants to come and treat everybody the same.

He said a person that complied by the rules and had their financial aid paperwork in on deadline should not wait two hours behind a person that did not. He said the problem with Howard is that it frustrates the people who complied by the rules and make people turn away from Howard on their first

day.

"There are some areas where we claim to be the Mecca but turn around and see compromise," he said.

Brown said people will not transfer because they see the good in Howard but hate the bad so much that they leave and give less than a dollar a year back to the "Mecca."

An audience member asked Brown where he sees Howard in 40 years. Brown answered, "Some people ask, 'In 40 years, will there be a Howard?' And there are some people that want that to be the case."

Brown encouraged students to understand the problem as an institutional one and continue to fight to have the university control its money rather than relying on appropriations.

Former 1984 HUSA President Christopher Cathcart said one of the most important things is to not let the importance of activism wane because blacks, as a people, are worse off when there is no activism.

Cathcart said that Howard's activist spirit is intertwined with the race. He said they were black activists first and then came to Howard and added the title "student." Activism challenges status quo and injustice, according to Cathcart.

He said Howard is an integral part of that fight and can't imagine what his life would be without Howard.

Cathcart said, "Next to family, Howard is the single most important thing that ever happened to me."

THE NATIONAL PAN-HELLENIC COUNCIL AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY  
PRESENTS

# GREEKS IN THE DARK

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# The Controversy Behind America's Premier Test

*Studies have proven that students from more affluent backgrounds are statistically more likely to score well on SAT*

BY RILEY WILSON  
Staff Writer

One test that most students in America are familiar with is the Standard Aptitude Test, more commonly known as the SAT. The test measures general comprehension and mathematic ability among high school seniors.

In a recent study conducted by the College Board, the higher a family's income, the higher the student is likely to score on the test.

College Board, an organization dedicated to helping students make a successful transition to higher education, recently released a study on PSAT/NMSQT, SAT, and course work experience and scores, detailing the commonalities and discrepancies among test takers.

One particular report identified a correlation between parent income and SAT scores. The highest average scores came from students whose parents made more than \$200,000 a year.

When considering the critical reading, mathematics and writing, this group of students managed to get a minimum of 60 points above the average test score for all income groups. There was not a situation where the students from a lower income group would average higher than students from a higher income group.

Parent's education was no different. The higher the education the parents had, the higher the average score for students taking the SAT.

College Board is also adamant on test preparation, which is what some people believes influences these statistics.

Many believe that with a higher level of education, parents are able to bring in more money; with a bigger salary to work with, there tends to be a higher discretionary income. In addition to standard SAT fees, SAT Test prep ranges from \$70-\$200.

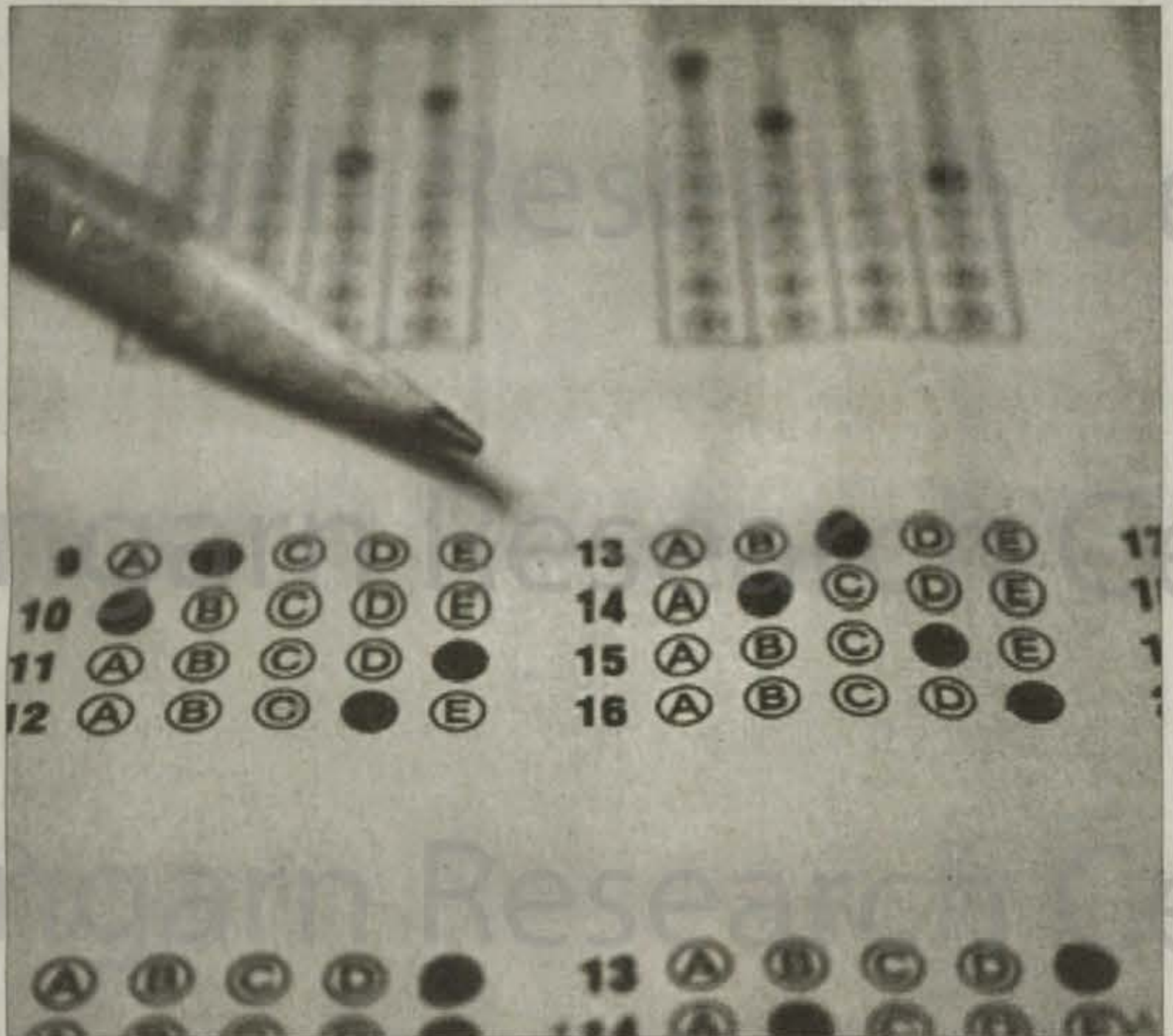
Freshman international business major, Ashleigh Anderson, thinks that these numbers make perfect sense. "Parents can afford higher education for [them], tutors, and SAT prep. I'm not in that boat, my parents' income is not even close," she said. Anderson believes that high discretionary income is beneficial when it comes to test preparation.

Anderson isn't the only person who believes that the correlation is all too familiar.

"They're exposed to more than someone in a less developed area, and parents are more informed," said a source from Howard University's Enrollment Management department.

The SAT scores of incoming Howard students are sent to enrollment management and students' specific financial information is handled by Financial Aid. Because these numbers are kept separate, the source was unable to comment on the correlation pertaining to Howard students specifically.

The College Board report also touched on the difference in scores by race, with white test-takers



Zelena Williams - Photo Editor

The College Board's Standard Aptitude Test (SAT) has been used in United States high schools for decades. Many students take the SAT, while other students choose to take the ACT.

representing the highest number of test takers and the highest average scores.

They were followed by Asian/Asian-American test-takers who were the only group to score

higher than white test-takers in mathematics.

Following Mexican and Puerto Rican test-takers, were black test-takers who had the lowest scores. This may or may not

come as a shock since the Census Bureau recently published a press release stating that blacks still have a poverty rate of 24.7 percent--the highest between Hispanics, whites, and Asians.

## Sports Trivia Answer:

1919

Jack Roosevelt "Jackie" Robinson was born on January 31, 1919 in Cairo, Ga.

## UNITED STATES ECONOMISTS HOPEFUL ABOUT FUTURE

BY OLLIE MONTGOMERY  
Staff Writer

Economic indicators from the Federal Reserve and the United States Department of Commerce have shown that the economy is slowly, but surely easing its way out of the recession and back towards growth.

With the economy expanding, stock market improving, and increased consumer confidence, some feel relieved. However, President Barack Obama is reminding America that the nation is still in the recovery process, saying that significant job growth isn't likely until 2010.

"I want to be clear, that probably the jobs picture is not going to improve considerably -- and it could even get a little bit worse -- over the next couple of months," the president told CNN's John King on "State of the Union," Sunday.

The president is confident that the economy will create jobs this fall, but not enough jobs to match projected population growth.

Obama also does not believe that the jobs to be made in the coming months will be enough to account for the nearly 700,000 jobs lost per month earlier this year.

Since 2007, the United States lost 6.9 million jobs, and now has an unemployment rate of 9.7 percent. Reflecting the latest employment data from the U.S. Department of Labor, many economists expect the country to continue to shed jobs, albeit at a much slower rate than this spring, and even this summer.

Others expect the employ-

ment rate to hit 10 percent by the end of the year, a level not seen since the early 1980s, before leveling and reversing in spring 2010.

Darryl Hall, a junior economics major from Providence, R.I., believes that President Obama's remarks were a "honest response."

"I think we as the American people can't automatically assume that because things are getting better, automatically jobs are going to start appearing," he said.

Hall understands that this process takes time, especially since the economy declined for so long, and compares it returning from an injury on the football field.

"It's almost like you can't go [immediately] back into the field, you have to go through that recovery stage and make sure everything is in place," he said.

However, some Howard students do not feel that Obama's remarks offered much hope to those who are unemployed or at risk of losing their jobs.

"It takes a while for the economy to really recover from a recession, which is bad, so the fact that there won't be jobs until 2010 makes me wonder what we're going to do until then," said Lindsey Smith, sophomore economics major from Durham, N.C. Smith says many people will have to adapt and look for service jobs in the meantime.

The recession impacted corporate institutions very hard, and until they feel confident enough to hire again, the unemployed will have to look elsewhere or ride out the end of the economic downturn.

## FRIDAY FOLLIES



In this Friday Folly, we see an illustration demonstrating the widespread belief that President Obama is over-extending himself and has been over-exposed.

Where's the funny?

Many citizens feel as though the president is trying to tackle too many issues at one time, and also that he is too publicized. This illustration shows some of those concerns.

- Compiled by Marquis H. Barnett,  
Nation & World Editor

Find something funny?

Submit your Friday Folly to [hilltopnw@gmail.com](mailto:hilltopnw@gmail.com)



## An Athlete You Should Know: Willie O'Ree

BY TYLER DRAGON  
Contributing Writer

African Americans are widely represented in most professional sports including basketball, football and track and field. There are not many Blacks professionally playing sports such as tennis, soccer and golf; however some Black athletes, such as Willie O'Ree, have been at the top in these fields.

Pioneers such as Jackie Robinson, Pele, Jesse Owens and Arthur Ashe have paved the way for Black athletes today.

Black representation in the sport of hockey is very rare which makes Willie O'Ree unique. Born on Oct. 15, 1935 in Fredericton, New Brunswick, Willie O'Ree is known as the first Black hockey player in the National Hockey League.

O'Ree made his NHL debut on Jan. 18, 1958, playing the winger position for the Boston Bruins. His Bruin career was brief spanning from 1958 through 1961 where he scored four goals and had ten assists.

The bulk of O'Ree's hockey career was spent playing minor league hockey for the Los Angeles Blades and the San Diego Gulls in the Western Hockey League from 1961 through 1974. He starred for both of these teams scoring more than 30 goals in four of his 13 seasons.

"I love hockey, but have never heard of Willie O'Ree," said freshman, Jon Brown. "I feel bad. I should have been aware of this player."

During his years playing major and minor league hockey, Willie O'Ree had to overcome many obstacles. Two years prior to starting his professional hockey career, O'Ree was struck in the right eye by a hockey puck causing him to lose 95% of his vision in this eye.

Ironically, he managed to keep this disability secret throughout his career, so that he would not be denied the opportunity to play. In addition to his physical disability, O'Ree also faced constant racism from spectators. In his biography by



Willie O'Ree, pictured on the left, was the first African-American hockey player in the NHL (National Hockey League). O'Ree played most of his career with impaired vision as a result of a puck striking him in the eye during a game. Photo Courtesy of the Associated Press

John McGourty, "O'Ree: A Hockey Pioneer," O'Ree recalls fans yelling out things such as "Go back to the South" and "How come you're not picking cotton?"

He recalled that the racism did not disturb him saying, "It didn't bother me. I just wanted to be a hockey player, and if they couldn't accept that fact, that was their problem, not mine." Many people marvel at O'Ree's accomplishments in the face of adversity. "To be blind and still play sports, be a pioneer and still be successful is

remarkable. It's just another example that anything is possible," said Willy Harbor, former club hockey coach.

Playing professional hockey until the age of 43, O'Ree managed to have a successful 13-year hockey career. After his career ended, the San Diego Gulls retired his number and his jersey remains hanging at the San Diego Sports Arena. O'Ree was inducted into the New Brunswick Hall of Fame, in 1984 and into the San Diego Hall of Fame in 2008. The NHL and Boston also

honored O'Ree establishing a special exhibit in the Sports Museum of New England showcasing his career.

O'Ree's involvement and success in hockey remain rare in the Black community. Hockey remains a sport dominated by whites and is not known for its popularity among Black athletes or spectators. Hockey fans have their own opinions on why there is little Black involvement in the sport of hockey.

"The cost of equipment is a factor and resources aren't very ac-

cessible for hockey," said junior TV production major, David Hill.

"I believe Blacks don't play because of stereotypes. They don't see other Blacks playing so they're afraid of being ridiculed," Brown said.

Since 2000, the NHL has had a total of 17 Black players. However, O'Ree has made a lasting contribution to the sport. Fans and players regard O'Ree as the Jackie Robinson of hockey.

## Sports Throwback Photo



NBA Hall of Famer, Wilt "The Stilt" Chamberlain holds the record for the most points scored in a single game in a matchup between the Philadelphia Warriors and the New York Knicks. Photo Courtesy of Wikipedia

## Sports Trivia!

What year was the first African-American baseball player, Jackie Robinson born?

Search today's Hilltop for the answer!

## TODAY IN SPORTS HISTORY

September 25, 1997

The WNBA announced that it will add Detroit and Washington, D.C. franchises.

Want to write for sports?

E-mail [thehilltopsports@gmail.com](mailto:thehilltopsports@gmail.com) for more information.



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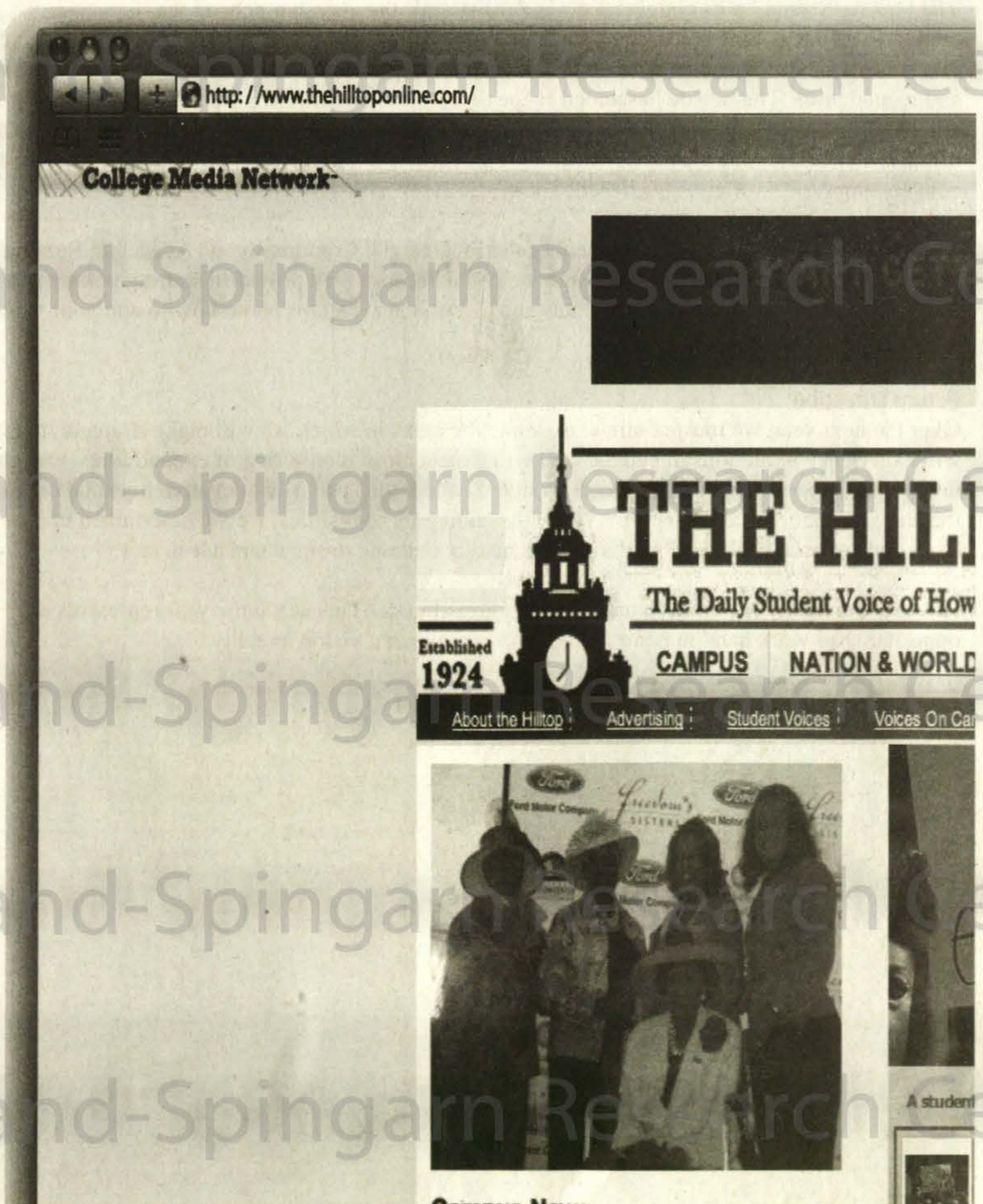
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# Letter from The President

September 25, 2009

Dear HU Community:

Today is our Opening Convocation marking the official start of a new academic year. It is a time to celebrate the achievements of the past and to anticipate the successes of the future. It is also a time to acknowledge 2009-2010 as an academic year of great potential and to embrace the life of the mind and the compassion of the heart that continue to drive our commitment to excellence and service at Howard.

## Vision Priorities

For the past year, I have encouraged dialogue in public settings about our University's goals and the direction of our academic programs. I have met with students, faculty and staff in schools and colleges and with alumni, external funders and friends of the University around the country.

Consistently and eagerly, members of the Howard community have offered thoughts about what should be our priorities. This is a process that I urge us to continue. Emerging from these exchanges are some key principles:

1. A revamped academic model institution-wide, which has at its core, excellence in teaching and scholarship; a more robust graduate research portfolio as well as research experiences for undergraduates.
2. Rigorous preparation of researchers, technicians and professionals with particular emphasis on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) aimed at addressing the disparities between people of color and the mainstream population; greater service to the University and the community in areas of disparity such as education and health care.
3. An affirmative internationalism that includes the development of effective partnerships with governments, other universities, non-governmental organizations, industries and foundations to advance a progressive academic agenda as well as a social justice agenda; service and engagement at the local, national, and international levels, and study abroad opportunities for every student.
4. Strong support of interdisciplinary work.

The Faculty Senate, in its budget recommendations for the year, has echoed the emphasis on developing research opportunities and a clear research agenda supported by capital investments, internationalism with emphasis on human rights and interdisciplinary work involving disparate and related units. The Senate has added to the discussion the following: refined research emphasis on nanotechnology, financial literacy/education, health disparities and wellness, and the greening of the environment. The Howard University Student Association (HUSA) has also participated in the conversation.

As we move towards the announcement of the Presidential Commission on Academic Renewal, ideas from all parts of our university community are welcome because they provide a starting point and a framework for our anticipated, campus-wide debates and discussions. Details about how to add your voice will be coming soon.

## Future Direction

Over the next year, we must continue to define the areas in which we will make strategic investments. We will experience reductions in budgets and will expect close monitoring of expenditures. Our choices will be tough, due in part to what one college president called, the "persistent negative financial outlook sweeping the entire higher education sector." Notwithstanding these realities, we are determined that we will emerge from our financial challenges with our high quality and our strong character intact.

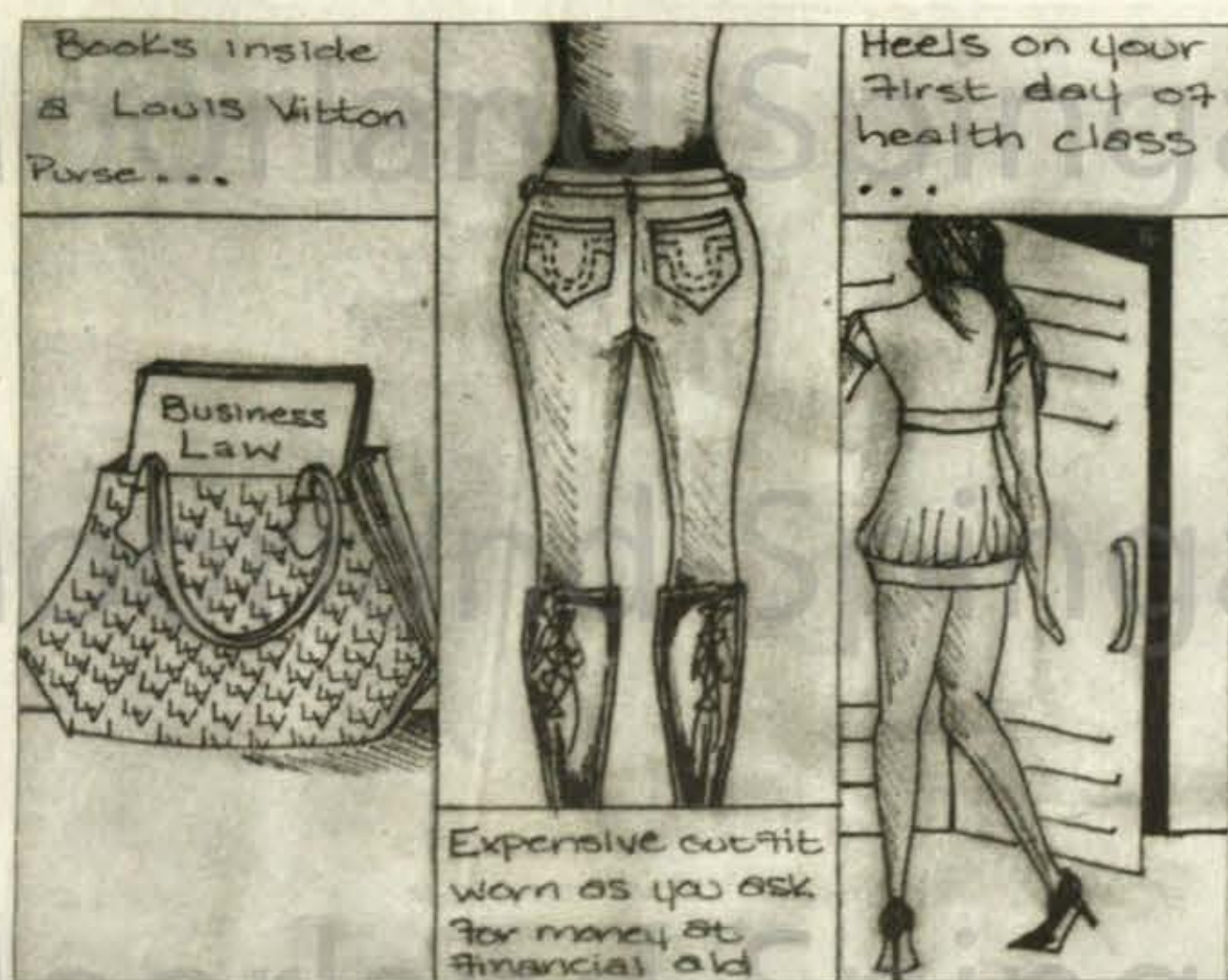
Howard University is poised to move into its greatest era. This academic year represents an opportunity to work hand in hand with others to make that vision a reality.

I invite you to join me in the dialogue.

Sincerely,

Sidney A. Ribeau  
President





## Has Howard University Become 'Bourgeoisie'?

Howard University, home to some of the nation's most brilliant, business-minded, innovative and intellectual students. Hailed as the "black Harvard" and the premier HBCU to attend, Howard boasts a stunning array of powerful alumni, from *The Hilltop's* own Zora Neale Hurston, to Thurgood Marshall.

We as Howard students are continuing an incredible legacy, of which we are understandably proud. But, have we allowed this pride to evolve from school spirit to an attitude of bare-faced self-importance?

Unfortunately, Howard University seems to have developed a less than flattering reputation of arrogance, especially within the D.C. community and in a national arena.

From the outside looking in, we as Howard students might seem a little

over-confident, maybe even full of ourselves.

To our credit, as students of this dynamic university, we're being conditioned from the beginning of our freshman year to not only be aware of our self-worth, but to strive to maximize that full potential.

**Our View:**  
*There's a thin line between confidence and arrogance - and we need to stay on the right side.*

The powerful realization that as young black men and women we have endless opportunities at our disposal, and the ability to actually use them, has established Howard as a hotbed of young professionals and

innovators, confident in our talents and abilities.

There's an undeniably thin line between confidence and arrogance, and it seems like Howard University students may be tottering dangerously on that line. Well what can we do about it? It's not our job to make sure the rest of the world doesn't feel threatened by our amplified levels of confidence, is it?

The best thing we can do to dispel these negative implications is to remember that attending Howard doesn't make us special at all; it's the things we accomplish that set us apart.

We should always maintain our confidence, and that Howard swag, but let's not stumble into that category of bigheadedness and pretentiousness; it's not a good look.

## Daily Sudoku

Directions:

Each row, each column and each 3x3 box must contain each and every digit 1-9 exactly once.

	3		8					
7		6	3		8		1	
8		2		7	5			3
2	9					3		
5	8		7		3		1	2
		3					7	8
4			6	3		5		9
9		8			4	2		7
				2			6	

## Want to write for *The Hilltop*?

Come grab a story at our next budget meeting.

Sunday at 6 p.m. in the Howard Plaza Towers West P-Level

## Perspective

### Unveiling the Double Standards

I am shocked by the double standards that are being constructed to protect President Obama from the criticism that every president has faced. On Monday, *The Hilltop* ran a perspective article that basically blasted anybody who disagreed with the president as a racist. President Obama was not the first president to be depicted as "the Joker," the famous Batman villain!

Where was *The Hilltop* perspective when that very same image was used by *Vanity Fair* magazine to portray former president, George W. Bush? I do not understand why the typical attacks every president has faced are now being construed to mean something it's not!

Portraying Obama as a witch doctor wasn't a racist attack. It was a sign of a black man created to poke fun at Obama's failed health care plan. He wanted to show that he felt Obama's health care plan would be as effective as a witch doctor, but the liberal media spun it into some hidden agenda of racism.

Now let's imagine for a second, that President

Bush was still president today, and during his address to Congress he stated that Iraq still had weapons of mass destruction. Would we be surprised if a Democratic congressman called him out on his lie and vocally disagreed with the president? Well we shouldn't, because President Bush was booed during his 2005 address to Congress when talking about social security as was Clinton during his address to Congress!

I am in no way justifying his actions but disagree with Representative Wilson being called a racist for calling Obama out on his lie, when politicians have for decades disrupted a president's address to Congress!

The liberal media covered the Rep. Wilson story like it was an unprecedented event, when in fact it was something typical to Washington politics!

A few days ago, the generally accepted worst president of the 20<sup>th</sup> century (Jimmy Carter) stated on TV that he thought the demonstrations against President Obama's policies were rooted in racism! What?

So now anybody who adamantly disagrees with the president is a racist? Where is the justification for this? I was at the Tea Party on 9/12/2009 and watched the Chair of the National Black Republican Association walk across the stage and speak. Contrary to what the Democrats want you to think, I didn't hear any racist comments or boos coming from the supposedly racist crowd, only cheers and applause as a black woman voiced her outrage with Obama's policies.

I am sure there are more than a few racists in this country who don't want Obama as president. However, to proclaim that the majority of the millions of Americans who disagree with Obama's policies are racist is nothing more than an attempt by the Democratic Party to scare a few more blacks into the voting booth this coming election day.

Brandon Cooper  
French/Political  
Science Major

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The Nation's Only Black Daily Collegiate Newspaper

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Now in its 85th year, *The Hilltop* is published Monday through Friday by

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black collegiate newspaper in the nation.

The opinions expressed on the Editorial & Perspectives page are the views

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